

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **SB 2139 - HB 2520**

February 5, 2002

#### **SUMMARY OF BILL:**

- provides that a notary public who is not a licensed attorney and who advertises as a notary in a language other than English must include a statement specifying that they are not a licensed attorney and may not give legal advice or accept fees for legal advice.
- provides that a non-attorney notary public may not advertise to be an immigration consultant or expert unless such notary public is an accredited representative of an organization recognized by the Board of Immigration Appeals.
- clarifies that a notary public who is not a licensed attorney is prohibited from rendering any service that constitutes the unauthorized practice of law.
- provides that certain notaries public are required to prominently post their fee schedules. Such posting must be in English and the non-English language in which the notary services are solicited.
- authorizes any official with authority to initiate ouster proceedings against a notary public to also seek injunctive relief against any notary public who violates the provisions of this bill.
- specifies that any violations of the provisions of this bill would be considered unlawful acts or practices under the *Tennessee Consumer Protection Act of 1977* and is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor.

#### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant**

**Increase Local Govt. Revenues - Not Significant**

**Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant**

Estimate assumes that:

- any increase in state expenditures resulting from the investigation of violations of the provisions of this bill will not be significant.
- local government impact depends upon the number of persons convicted of this offense and the resulting increased cost to local governments to confine such persons versus the increased revenues to local governments from fines levied and collected under the provisions of this bill.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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